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UNCLAS PARIS 001715

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STATE FOR NP/ECNP AND EUR/WE

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SUBJECT: FRANCE: GOF ACCEPTS PROPOSED MARCH 29 MEETINGS ON NEW
COMPUTER METRIC FOR WASSENAAR ARRANGEMENT

REF: STATE 41476

1. EconOff raised reftel with MFA Wassenaar Arrangement expert Bruno Bisson on March 11 and followed-up with him on March 14 and 15, when he confirmed that he and his GOF interagency colleagues accept the U.S. proposal to bring a small team of experts to Paris on March 29 for a presentation of our joint U.S.-Japan proposal followed by a discussion of the proposed new computer metric. We have confirmed that the meeting will begin at 10:00am on March 29 in the Embassy library.

2. On March 29, Bisson will be accompanied by Anne Diaz of the Defense Ministry (MOD) along with perhaps one other person from the MOD that has yet to confirm attendance. Bisson said that no one from the Industry Ministry with the relevant subject matter expertise was available, but he promised to share the points of our presentation with the appropriate people within the GOF before the April experts meeting.

Leach